

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-14 are allowed.

With respect to independent claims 6 and 13, the prior art does not disclose, in the claimed environment, a stackable tissue processing cassette system wherein a second cassette comprises a plurality of apertures. The closest prior art is represented by the Mathus reference which teaches the use of a plurality of stackable cassettes wherein each cassette includes a plurality of apertures arranged along cassette sidewalls. Mathus, however, does not explicitly state that the apertures are positioned within a bottom wall.

This notice of allowance is in response to the BPAI decision set forth on 29 March 2010.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NATHAN A. BOWERS whose telephone number is (571) 272-8613. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7 AM to 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Marcheschi can be reached on (571) 272-1374. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/William H. Beisner/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

/Nathan A Bowers/
Examiner, Art Unit 1797